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5 X 5	41A	Great haste makes great waste	SLOWDOWN	
4 X 4	74A	Home away from home	INN	
2 X 2	72A	Go by	ZIP	
3 X 3	25A	Odd one out	EXTRA	

**SIZE**

Each of the theme entries (longest across answers) in this puzzle referenced a grid of a very specific size. Those sizes were, in order, 5x5, 4x4, 2x2, and 3x3. Lots of folks realized that first step without too many issues. But, then came the stumper: where do you go from there? The right path was hidden in the clues - you needed to find clues where the number of words x the number of letters in those words was equivalent to the grid dimensions. So, the 5x5 clue was "Great haste makes great waste" since it contains 5 words, each being 5 letters long. Following that pattern would've resulted in 4 grid entries, whose first letters spelled **SIZE**, something that can be measured and the answer to the meta.